

Amendments To the Claims:

Please amend the claims as shown. Applicants reserve the right to pursue any cancelled claims at a later date.

1.-14. (cancelled)

15. (new) An inductive rotary transducer for transmitting data, comprising:
a fixed part;
a rotating part rotating about the fixed part;
a common virtual rotational axis shared by the rotating and fixed parts; and
an inductive element for transmitting the data via at least one data transmission path,
the data transmission path arranged outlying the common virtual rotational axis.

16. (new) The inductive rotary transducer according to claim 15, further comprising a housing having a duct enclosing the virtual rotational axis.

17. (new) The inductive rotary transducer according to claim 15, wherein the inductive element is a transformer comprising at least first and second coils assigned to the fixed respectively rotating part.

18. (new) the inductive rotary transducer according to claim 17, wherein the first coil is arranged adjacent to the second coil relative to the virtual rotational axis.

19. (new) The inductive rotary transducer according to claim 17, wherein the first coil is arranged coaxially around the second coil.

20. (new) The inductive rotary transducer according to claim 17, wherein the first or the second coil is a toroid coil.

21. (new) The inductive rotary transducer according to claim 17, wherein the first or the second coil is a planar coil.

22. (new) The inductive rotary transducer according to claim 15, wherein the inductive element comprises a device for concentrating a magnetic field generated by the inductive element.

23. (new) The inductive rotary transducer according to claim 15, comprising first and second inductive elements for bidirectional data transmission, the first inductive element configured to transmit data and the second inductive element configured to receive data.

24. (new) The inductive rotary transducer according to claim 23, wherein the first inductive element is arranged adjacent to the second inductive elements relative to the virtual rotational axis.

25. (new) The inductive rotary transducer according to claim 23, wherein the first and second inductive elements have a coaxially nested arrangement.

26. (new) The inductive rotary transducer according to claim 23, further comprising a decoupling device arranged between the first and second inductive elements for separating a first magnetic field generated by the first inductive element from a second magnetic field generated by the second inductive element.

27. (new) The inductive rotary transducer according to claim 15, wherein the inductive rotary transducer is configured to transmit data according to a bus protocol.

28. (new) The inductive rotary transducer according to claim 27, wherein the bus protocol is a Fast Ethernet protocol.

29. (new) The inductive rotary transducer according to claim 15, wherein the inductive rotary transducer forms one integrated unit.